TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION Member

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

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EDITORIAL OPINION

THE WIDE, WIDE WORLD

(New York Herald Tribune)

Prospective graduates of the class of 1955, to whom the world beyond college walls is beginning to look disturbingly wide, can take comfort in the open letter addressed to them by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell. It seems that this year there are only 264,000 of them. Five years ago there were 434,000; five years hence there will be 325,000; by 1970 there will be 600,000. The members of this class are sitting, therefore, at the bottom of a U-curve, enjoying the advantage of being in abnormally short supply at a time when job opportunities are creating a high demand for their services.

The sketch of job opportunities in particular fields, as furnished by Mr. Mitchell should give college graduates still greater encouragement. Should they wish to enter civil services, for example, they would find the demand constant. In the fields of health and engineering, the supply is insufficient. In natural science the demand is great, the only supply insufficient. In teaching the demand is very great and growing, the supply greatly inadequate.

To secure information about these and other openings, college graduates have many avenues available. They may consult the Department of Labor's publication, "The Occupational Outlook Handbook"; the local State Employment Service for the job picture in their own area; the campus placement center, if there is one. By and large, with employment rising and economic optimism high, they should have little to worry about. The country depends on them, as Secretary Mitchell observes, to translate visions into reality. They will not fail to live up to their destiny.

RIP-TAILED ROARING

(The Washington Post)

We are much afraid that the novelty goods dealers and other merchants who have stocked up heavily in Confederate forage caps, space-cadet helmets and Hopalong Cassidy suits are going to be stuck with them for a while. The current enthusiasm of the younger set these days is all for imitation coonskin caps, fringed buckskin shirts, Arkansas toothpicks, synthetic Injun scalps, and b'ar steaks from the supermarket br'iled in the back-yard wilderness over papa's outdoor grill. We have entered, in other words, a new cycle of mass fantasy and frenzy which turns about the historico-legenary figure of Davy Crockett, king of the wild frontier.

It all seems to have started earlier this year with a film shown on Walt Disney's Wednesday night television program. This, you may recall ,is the show which has been taking customers away from Arthur Godfrey and, it is said, causing him to quarrel with some of his friends. There was a kind of theme - song in the form of a ballad with a catchy air which, since it was recorded for the discs, has sold something like a million impressions and has been crowding even the blues singers and the mambo musicians out of favor with juke box patrons.

Already the ballad has become important enough to stir up controversy. A bitter quarrel has arisen about whether North Carolina or Tennessee may rightfully claim the honor of having been the hero's birthplace. It is one of those rare controversies in which both sides are right. The mountaintop on which the redoutable Davy was born in 1786 belonged, de facto, to the short-lived State of Franklin and, de jure, to North Carolina which had generously ceded the territory to the United States in 1784, only to reclaim it at the next session of the Legislature. The government of Franklin was not dissolved until 1788 and the State of Tennessee, as such, did not come into being until 1796. By that time, no dobut, young Davy had already acquired his lifelong habit of moving around; but through all the political and legal confusion the mountain stayed right where it had been in the first place. Up in Philadelphia the custodians of Independence Hall have thought it necessary to make a formal denial that Davy Crockett really did mend the crack in the Liberty Bell.

Until Mr. Disney decided to reincarnate him in the person of young Fess Parker, Jr., Davy Crockett was remembered by most of us as one of the defenders of the Alamo and as the author of the much-mouthed maxim, "Be sure you're right; then go ahead," which by alphabetical irony often appeared on the same page of the compendiums with Cromwell's, "Gentlemen, I beseech you .. that ye may be mistaken!" By some of his contemporaries .. especially those who were supporters of his compatriot and archenemy Andy Jackson — Davy was regarded as a bit of a humbug, and it was even alleged that somebody else had written the famous Autobiography recounting his exploits.

What harassed parents, who watch their children trying to behave like rip-tailed roarers and half-men, half-alligators, are wondering now is just how long this Davy Crockett craze will last. On the basis of past enthusiasms one might guess about six months. But the only sure thing is that when it's no longer Davy Crockett it will be something else, just as strenuous.

BUNGLING THE VACCINE PLANS

(The New York Times)

There is mounting dissatisfaction with the way the United States Public Health Service has been directing the utilization of the Salk vaccine. The reason is manifestly the vagueness of the announecments that the service has made ever since the Cutter vaccine was withdrawn. What, for example, is the "strong presumptive evidence" on which the service relies in condemning some Cutter vaccine? Gossip and rumor have taken the place of fact.

Such gossip and rumor should have been scotched by the Public Health Service if unfounded and admitted if true. Matters are not heuped by tightening the specifications for making and testing the vaccine, with not an official word of the reason for the tightening. More has come from producers of vaccine or the new tighter specifications than from the Public Health Service.

Accidents have happened in the preparation of several vaccines in the past, and they may have happened in the case of the Salk vaccine. Physicians have not forgotten the deaths among children that followed the administration of an anti-tuberculosis vaccine which had been too hastily prepared in a Lubecl laboratory, nor the cases of jaundice and infectious hepatitis that followed the use of yellow-fever vaccine in World War II. We passed the Biological Controls Act to prevent such mishaps. If literally enforced that act would call for the biological testing of every vial of vaccine that reaches a physician — a manifest impossibility because of the demands made on both the producers and the National Halth Institutes which is already overtaxed.

The best that can be done is to test vaccine in vials drawn at random from a lot, and pass or reject the lot on the findings. This established procedure is now to be made more vigorous, in the sense that no lattitude in interpreting the rules for testing will be allowed. All this will take time — more time than we have with the polio season hard upon us. But time should be taken. This means that a mistake was possibly made in proceeding with mass inoculations immediately after the Francis report was published. Despite this possible mistake we might still have carried out this year's program, as many physicians have suggested, but made it plain that more information about the vaccine and its effects was needed for the protection of the public.

Because of a policy of virtual secrecy, public confidence in the Salk vaccine has slackened, despite the wholehearted endorsement of the Public Health Service and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Because of its failure to give out information which must be published in the end, and because it has administered its program of production and distribution so ineptly, the Public Heatlh Service must assume responsibility for the confusion that prevails.

NOT QUITE AUTOMATIC

(Christian Science Monitor)

Ask any thousand Americans who elects the President of the United States and at least 999 of them will answer, "The people." Usually, in a practical senes, that is true. But the machinery of the Electoral College does not always work quite that way.

In the first nine elections there are no reliable tabulations of the popular vote for electors. Since then, the United States has held 33 presidential elections. In 30, the nominee with the highest popular vote received also a majority of the electoral vote and was declared elected.

In three cases, however, another candidate became President. The first was in 1824, when Andrew Jackson received a popular plurality but in the absence of an electoral majority the House of Representatives chose John Quincey Adams.

In 1876, Samuel J. Tilden received an undisputed majority of popular votes, yet Rutehrford B. Hayes was seated by a special commission which canvassed 22 contested electoral votes. Twelve years later the distribution of elecoral votes elcted Benjamin Harrison although Grover Cleveland had received nearly 100,000 more ballots at the polls.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has reported a resolution designed to correct these aberrations of the electoral process. The sponsors are Senators Kefauver of Tennessee and Daniel of Texas. A similar measure was introduced in earlier Congresses by former Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, now chief United States delegate to the United Nations.

It proposes a constitutional amendment under which the electoral vote of each state would be divided in the mathematical ratio of the popular vote in that state. This would do away with the "unit rule" under which states now are voted as blocs.

The amendment should be adopted. The existing machinery is supposed to be automatic; but it is not. How many merchants of today would buy a cash register that came up with the right total only ten times out of eleven?

Death toll on highways over the Memorial Day week-end was alarmingly high.

NEW COURSE TO DEGREE AT LONGWOOD

Farmville, Va.- A full graduate program leading to either a master of arts degree in education or a master of science degree in education will be offerd for the first time in the summer session at Longwood College, which will open on June 20.

The program, which will be open to graduates of recognized colleges and universities, was inaugurated to afford public school teachers and other qualified persons an opportunity for broader training.

Persons entering the program of graduate studies may major or minor in education, English, history, biology, or mathematics, and they may minor in business education, chemistry and physics, French, Spanish, geology and geography, social sciences, home economics, music, physical education or psychology.

Graduate courses will be offered July 4—August 12, and two, three, four, five, six and eight week courses will be offered at the undergraduate level. The undergraduate courses are designed for teachers who wish to work towards a bachelor's degree, renew teaching certificates, study specific educational problems or develop new skills. Also, new students and students already enrolled at Longwood may accelerate their programs by taking courses in the summer school.

RESOURCE-USE EDUCATION COUNCIL PLANS BOOKLET

The Resource-Use Education Council held a meeting May 19 in the Hearing Room of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond, at which it was decided to publish a booklet on the conservation of the natural resources of Virginia. The booklet is expected to be off the press in September and it is hoped that it will prove worthwhile in the pubilc school system of the state.

There will be chapters on soil, water, forests, minerals, wildlfie and seafood resources.

County primary election will be held on July 12. There is a large list of eligible voters.

Appomattox Town Election to be held Tuesday, June 14.

Reds release four U. S. airmen.

Appomattox is a growing town.

VIRGINIA METHODISM HISTORY SOON READY

After seven years of research and writing of Methodism in Virginia is now on the press. The 360 page volume, "Virginia Methodism: A History" written by America's foremost church historian, William Warren Sweet, will be published by Whittet and Shepperson, Richmond. It was authorized by the Virginia Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in 1948. The book is profusely illustrated by Erle C. Prior.

In announcing the publication date of June 13, the chairman of the committee to prepare the history, Garland Evans Hopkins, of Herndon, said, "Seven years of research, study and writing by Dr. Sweet, assisted by members of the sponsoring committee, have resulted in an unusual account of Methodism's impact on Virginia and of Virginia Methodism's impact on the nation."

Annual sessions of the Virginia Methodist Conference will be held in Norfolk.

June term of the circuit court of Appomattox County to convene here next week.

Brooklyn and Yankees top baseball leagues.

FARM RECORDS

Records are necessary in ... business. To aid farmers in keeping records of field crops which ... crop, acres, fertilizer, pounds ... lysis, lime, manure, date planted, date harvested, and soil test ... is a form available for this purpose and called "Field Crop Record Sheet Summary," form 58.

Farm people are now covered with social security. This may present problems. As a ... a record sheet is essential. Call ... Individual Labor record for Social Security Tax Purposes—Form ... These forms will fit in a loose leaf notebook and are free at County Agent's office.

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SPRING FEEDER CALF YEARLING SALES SUMMARIZED

A total of 3,093 animals were sold at the series of six Virginia spring feeder-calf and yearling sales for an average price of $24.70 per cwt., reports Jim Smith, County Agent.

Steer cattle were up to a $24.62 average for all grades — a $3.50 increase over last fall when steer calves averaged $21.10 in Virginia feeder calf sales. Heifer calves also moved upward to an average of $19.39, compared to $15.35 last fall. The $5.25 spread in average prices between heifers and steers is still too much, Smith says, but heifers were in the minority at all sales except Winchester where 30% of the animals consigned were heifers.

Local feeders and grazers were the biggest buyers, with some cattle going to Maryland and Pennsylvania, and a few scattered lots to Ohio. There was considerable interest from the eastern part of the midwest, but no heavy buying.

Most of the buying interest was in thin cattle to go on grass, and the spread between grades was running from $1.00 to $1.50 per cwt., or about one-half what it is usually is in the fall sales.

The 2,492 steer cattle averaged 564 pounds per head, and at $24.62 per cwt. returned an average of $138.74. The 601 heifers weighed an average of 496 pounds, and at $19.39 per cwt., returned $96.16 per head.

The top price of $30.26 per cwt. was hit at the Richmond sale on a pen of 13 Hereford steer calves averaging 373 pounds. Total weight of all cattle—1,702, 568 pounds. Total money received, $403,523.31.

Plans are underway to continue the sales in 1956 and two additional sales will likely be added.

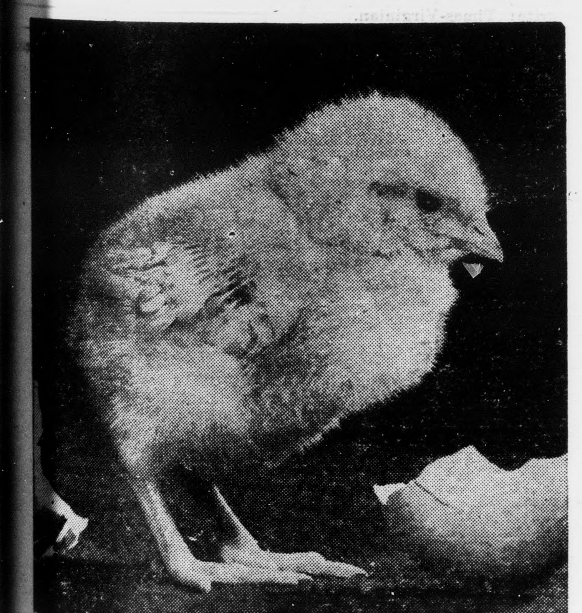
ARTIFICIALLY SIRED HEIFERS BRING HIGHER PRICES

Dairymen from Virginia and adjourning states place a high value on sires used in artificial breeding associations, says Dr. V. L. Baldwin, associate dairy husbandman at V. P. I.

This was indicated, he says, at a recent Holstein heifer sale at Orange. Buyers paid about $100 more, on the average, for each artificially sired heifer than for those from all other sires. Heifers bred by artificial insemination averaged about $478, while heifers bred from other sires averaged around $377.

The herds from which the heifers came had some influence on the price received. However, of the herds from which the heifers came, the AI-sired heifers brought considerably more than the non-AI-heifers from the same herd.

Increase prices for artificially sired animals are common, Dr. Baldwin says. It reflects the careful selection of the sires which go into artificial breeding service.



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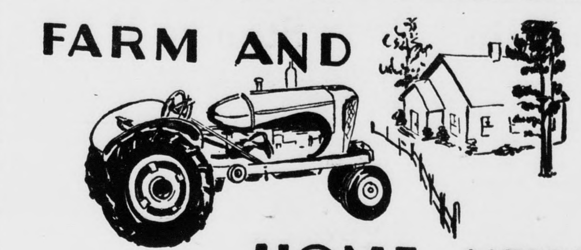

FARM AND HOME NEWS

Control Cut Worm

Cutworms are serious in areas of the county. In the garden or elsewhere they can be controlled.

When transplanting tomatoes, peppers, etc., a collar of stiff cardboard rolled and set in the soil around the stem will aid in controlling cutworms. When in place the collar should be 1/2 inch from the plant stem and extend one inch in the soil and two inches above the soil.

When the above method is impractical, use a poison bait. The bait should resemble wet sawdust, and be applied late in the evening as the cutworm works at night. Scatter lightly but thoroughly over the soil — or if for a few plants, drop beside individual plants. It is best to prepare bait of a morning and spread in late afternoon. Several applications may be necessary.

Preparation: Sodium fluosilicate or Paris green 1/4 pound

Wheat bran 5 pounds or 1 peck

Add water 3 to 4 quarts

Clipping Advised for Quality Pastures

Mow pastures in late May or in early June to remove old plant growth animals have refused, and to help control early-season weeds.

Removing the refuesd portions of forage plants and weeds gives the legumes in the pasture mixture a better chance to grow. Clipping before seed has set also encourages grass growth and results in a higher quality feed for the animals.

It is most important to prevent grasses and weeds from shading out ladino clover these next few weeks. Ladino grass pastures in which much of the grass has headed out should be clipped to prevent crowding the ladino. If grazing animals are left on the pastures a few days after clipping they will eat part of the forage they refused before.

Ladino-grass pastures cut for hay or silage should be allowed to recover to a height of at least six inches before grazing.

Bluegrass pastures should be mowed after they have headed out, but before the seed sets, to encourage growth of white clover in the mixture. Clipping at this stage of growth will also result in additional grass growth later in the season.

Marketing Information Can Help Farmers

The farmer has a host of valuable marketing aids available to him that can vastly increase the efficiency of his operations, says Jim Smith, County Agent.

Farmers are faced with such problems as what to produce and how much? When should this be sold? And where? Market news can help them decide.

If the livestock producer has been in the business long, he can remember when the only source of market information was the incomplete and conflicting reports of trade groups.

Today market news is accurate, timely and usable.

Here are some interpretations of market terms:

"Market stronger" means prices are advancing.

"Market firm" means prices are holding or are a shade higher.

"Market steady" means no immediate change.

"Market dull" means an inactive market.

"Market weaker" means price declines are general.

"Demand slow" means buyers are just looking.

"Demand good" means buyers have confidence in present prices.

"Supplies light" means the market could use more.

"Supplies heavy" means the market is over-supplied and prices are weakening.

Broiler Prices Are Going Down

Broiler prices are due for a drop! That's the almost certain outlook for July.

Chicks which are being set now will be sold about the middle of July. Last year in July they brought about 23c a pound. With roughly an 8 to 10% increase in supply of birds going to market this July, as compared with last year, the price level will be about 20 to 21c, the economists predict. Watch these prices. It may be the ideal time to buy broilers to put in the home freezer.

Crabgrass Killers

Crag herbicide No. 1 is taking its place this year along with other chemicals, such as potassium cyanate and phenly mecuric acetate (PMAS) suggested for control of crabgrass in established turf.

Jim Smith, county agent, says that unlike the chemical killers that control mature crabgrass, this herbicide kills seeds as they begin to sprout. Therefore, the first application should be made before any of the tiny seedlings are visible.

Monthly applications after that, through early August, may be necessary.

In addition to stopping crabgrass it also prevents seeds of many other weeds from germinating. If directions are closely followed, established lawn-grass plants should not be harmed. However, sprouting lawn-grass seeds are affected the same as those of weeds and other plants, so treatment of freshly seeded lawns is not advised. Follow manufacturers' directions printed on the package.

Coming Events

June 3—Aberdeen-Angus sale, Winston, Virginia

June 4—Hereford sale, Mannboro, Virginia

June 6—Guernsey sale, Roanoke, Virginia.

June 6— Lamb sale, Lynchburg.

June 14—Wool Pool, Lynchburg.

Homemakers Items

Virginia has made remarkable strides in lowering the communicable disease rate among children, but deaths caused by accidents are still appalling.

Miss Amelia Fuller, home economics specialist at VPI, points out that more Virginia chilren die from accidental causes than from diarrhea, measles, diphtheria, menengitis, poliomyelitis, whooping cough, scarlet fever and tuberculosis combined.

High on the list of accidents to babies and children are burns. A practice which frequently endangers the young child is the mothers thoughtless habit of leaving handles of pots on the stove turned so that the child can grasp them and turn the contents over. If young children cannot be kept out of the kitchen, keep them in a pen out of reach of the stove or a hot appliance.

In 1953 (the last year for which figures are available) home fires and explosions took the lives of 45 children under the age of 15. In most cases these could be traced to unsafe habits. Some fires were started by children who had not been taught matches were dangerous. Some were innocent victims of a paernt's folly in starting a fire with keresene, gasoline, or other solvent.

Suffocation accounted for the deaths of 48 children. Almost half of these suffocated in their beds. Others swallowed or inhaled objects which prevented breathing.

Leaving poisonous substances within reach of young hands caused the deaths of five children. Ofter the materials were unlabeled and not considered poisonous. Kerosene, cleaning compounds, insecticides, medicine, even aspirin may be dangerous. In fact, anything a child can swallow, which is not food, may be unsafe.

Miss Fuller points out that safety begins in the home—it's a family matter. Younger members of the family must be protected until they are old enough to be taught safety habits. However, parents can do much to encourage safety by teaching youngsters, at an early age, the right way to handle dangerous objects. Show them how to use sharp objects, how to handle electrical appliances, how to start a fire. They will get into trouble if left unsupervised to find out things for themselves.

Don't forget, your child absorbs your attitudes and copies your behavior. Take time to be sure that your ways of doing things are reasonably correct. Let children join in a safety check-up and encourage them to help correct any hazards. Make prompt repairs. Keep objects where they belong. Keep dangerous objects out of reach of children. Remember and practice the safety rules.

Milk To Be Plentiful

With milk production continuing at near-record levels, milk and other dairy products will be plentiful in June, says the home agent.

Milk and dairy products appear at the top of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's list of plentiful foods for June—the month the dairy industry is observing as Dairy Month.

Appomattox is a growing town.

County primary July 12.

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BOOKLETS ON FOOD AVAILABLE FROM ABBITT

The Department of Agriculture has just published an illustrated booklet showing the strides made in this country in the past 30 years to give Americans more and better foods.

The booklet, entiled, "More and Better Foods .. From Today's Pay Check," is being offered free of charge through the office of Representative W. M. Abbitt. Inquiries should be made to the congressman at the House Office Building, Washington 25. D. C.

Cartoons are used to show the advances that have been made in the production and marketing of foods and other factual information dealing with the farm.

Representative Abbitt has indicated that he will be glad to send them to residents of the Fourth District upon request.

FREEZE-UP OF WILDLIFE FOOD

The recent freeze-up, which extended so far south as central Florida, destroyed a potential mast crop for wildlife in the states of the Deep South, according to I. T. Quinn, executive director of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries who has just returned from a short vacation on the Gulf Coast of Alabama.

Quinn states that in his opinion the freeze did not do a great deal of harm to mast crops in Virginia because oaks, hickories and beeches and other staple mast crop-producing trees were not far enough advanced to be greatly injured by the freeze-up.

There is no doubt, however, that there has ben some injuries to certain of the small food-bearing plants which usually make their contributions to the food supply of game birds and animals.

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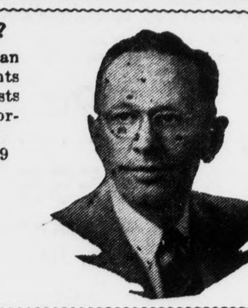

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